

OCTOBER, 1988

TWIN CITIES ATARI INTEREST GROUP

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H A P P Y H A L L O W E E N

The TAIG Newsletter

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President	Chuck Grimsby
Vice President	Eric Hopper
Treasurer	Ken Modeen
Secretary	Sue Loye
SysOp	Ken Modeen
8-Bit DOM	Greg Gibbons

If you represent another Atari users group that wishes to exchange newsletters, please mail a copy of your newsletter to TAIG.

Articles should be submitted in standard text files such as Atari Writer, SpeedScript, Word Writer etc. Please save files in ASCII with NO text formatting codes. You can send the article to TAIG, drop it off at a meeting or upload it to the BBS.

Any storage media will be returned at the next meeting or mailed to you.

Membership	Ken Modeen
BBS	425-2533

*** Newsletter ***

EDITOR	COURIER
Nathan Block	David Saari

TAIG Membership Application

New____ Renewal____ Change____

Name_____

Address_____

City_____

State____ Zip Code_____ Phone_____

Type of computer_____

Interests_____

Membership dues are \$15 per family per year. Please make checks payable to the Twin Cities Atari Interest Group. Please do not mail cash. Mail to:

TAIG
PO Box 26128
Minneapolis, Mn. 55426



PLEASE RENEW, HELP SUPPORT TAIG SUPPORT YOU!

If this box is checked, PLEASE renew your membership _____

Editor's Notes

Well, it was that time of the month and I again assembled the newsletter. Another BIG thanks is due to none other than Jim Johnson who gave me two outstanding articles. People, we have got to get fired up here! For two straight months, I have received NOTHING but articles from Jim Johnson. Now, incredible as it may seem, sooner or later Jim is going to run out of things to say! Somebody has GOT to take some time and write an article. What do you use this newsletter for? Do you read what's in it or do you use it only to tell the date of the meeting? If the latter is the case, a little index card costs ALOT less to mail, ALOT less to purchase and would save TAIG big bucks. The newsletter is a major expense, it takes around \$50 for printing and mailing and that is being conservative. Let's pull together people, or TAIG is going to fall apart.

Also be sure and use your TAIG privileges, you are entitled to a free FOR SALE/WANTED post in the newsletter and so far nobody has taken advantage of that. And I have added a few things that yet nobody has looked at yet. Come on folks, it is a bit discouraging!

A few last things:

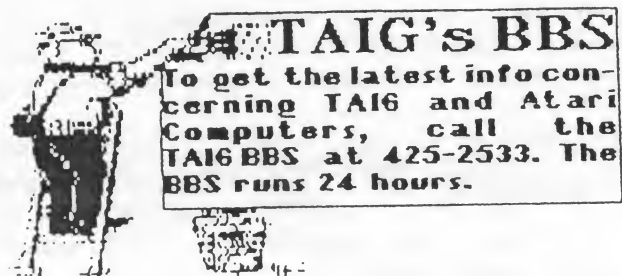
DON'T PIRATE SOFTWARE

COME TO THE MEETINGS

BUY OUR DOMS!

See you all later!

The Editor
Nathan Block



September 25th MEETING MINUTES Secretary: Sue Loye

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by president Chuck Grimsby.

Secretary Sue Loye read the minutes of the August 28th meeting.

Ken Modeen then gave the Treasurers report and the BBS report.

DOM librarian Greg Gibbons, announced Daisy-Dot II as Disk of the Month.

Anyone who can not attend the meetings and wishes to purchase a DOM can do so by sending a self addressed stamped envelope to: Twin Cities Atari Interest Group, P.O. Box 26128 Mpls, Mn. 55426.

Chuck warned of an ST virus that invaded his files. Time magazine had an article on computer viruses also.

GENie is having an upload contest and is offering the winner 5 hrs. of free download time.

The ST now has a MAC emulator.

The 8 bit GEM operating system is now out, it is called GOE or "ST Junior".

ICD's Sparta X cartridge with piggy-back slot is out.

Compuserve announced an online interview with Jack Tramiel.

Mastertronic is releasing 2 on 1 packs for the 8 bits, two games on a disk available at Target.

A swap meet was voted for the October meeting. New members only can sign up for \$5.00 off the regular price or a free DOM. Members who renew at the regular price can also choose a free DOM. See Ken Modeen to check your membership status.

The 8 bit demo was Boulder Dash Mania which consisted of Boulder Dash 1 and 2 as well as Boulder Dash Construction Kit.

The ST demo was OIDS and ST Talk II.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Note: a pre-built 12VDC power supply may be substituted for the transformer and rectifier. An optional capacitor rated at 12V or higher may be connected between the positive and negative sides after the rectifier or pre-built power supply.

Atari XMM801 Utility Disk #4

reviewed by Jim Johnson

Here it is gang, another collection of programs from STARFLEET SOFTWARE for Atari's XMM801 dot matrix printer. As I indicated in my review of Atari-NLQ II (Daisy Dots II clone) last month, the star of this disk is MAGNIFY.BAS.

Magnify is included on both the Atari-NLQ II disk and on this disk. If you own the XMM801 and have decided not to buy Atari-NLQ II (which I don't understand as it is the most useful utility written for the XMM801 thus far) you might be interested in obtaining a copy of Magnify from this disk. Magnify offers many of the same features of MAGNIPRINT II from Alpha Systems at less than half the price. I won't go into much more detail as I have already reviewed Magnify; but it enables the user to print picture files to the printer or to another file for use by Atari-NLQ II, in almost any size, either upright or horizontal, and gives superb output.

Most of you know that a word processor is not the right tool for a few typing jobs like filling in pre-printed forms. Getting the form properly aligned is often impossible. A typewriter is called for. While a typewriter is still the better tool, TYPEWRIT.BAS will turn your computer and printer into a reasonable substitute.

BANNER.BAS is a modification of the Epson program from the July 1988 issue of Antic to support the XMM801. Not all of the features of the original are supported on this modification, but the user can use either Print Shop or standard Atari fonts to print horizontal or vertical banners.

Most of us have LIST'ed BASIC programs to the printer for debugging or sharing with others. We also know that the inverse and character graphics are lost when we do so. LISTER.BAS will print your LIST'ed programs to the XMM801 in 40 column format and print the entire ATASCII character set, including a symbol for End Of Line (EOL). Print Tool from an earlier Utility Disk is a more advanced, but more complex program for dumping the ATASCII character set to the XMM801.

SIDEPRNT.COM is a relatively fast graphics dump program capable of some modification of the picture such as adding text. The documentation claims the ability to dump STRIP POKER pictures for those with carnal curiosity.

SIDEWAYS.COM is perhaps the next best utility after Magnify; but only if you are a user of Syn-Calculator or Syn-File+. This utility can print Syn-Calculator format files sideways on the page. Since the print quality is better than that of the horizontal draft mode, this may be a good way of presenting spreadsheets or data-base reports. If you choose a vertical format, any ATASCII text file can be printed.

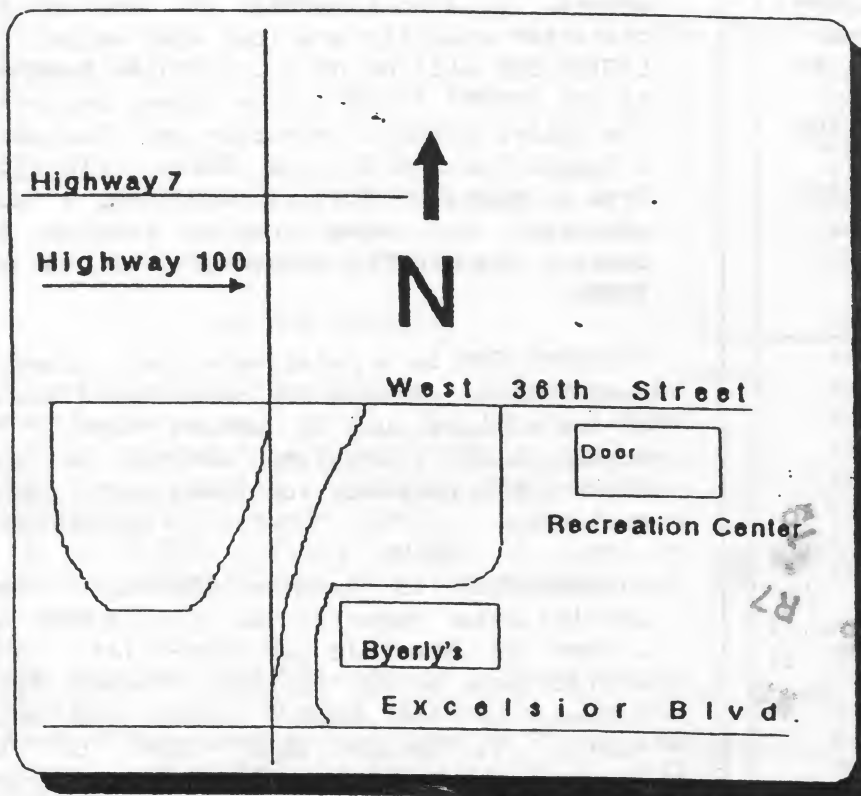
If you already own Atari-NLQ II there is little new of general interest on Utility Disk #4. Even Terry Ortman of STARFLEET admits that most other software seems a bit dull after seeing the power of Magnify. However individual programs might fill a long standing need for some users.

XMM801 Utility Disk #4 is available for \$10.00 from:

STARFLEET SOFTWARE Company
1037 West Lealand Avenue
Decatur, Illinois 62522-1537

If you wish more information, STARFLEET HQ BBS runs 300/1200 bps 24 hours a day at (217) 423-7430. STARFLEET can also supply COLOR ribbons for the XMM801 on a special order basis.

Need a DOM listing? Have a convenient list of all the DOMs and programs right at your fingertips! Send an SASE to TAIG's P.O. Box on the back of this newsletter!



TAIG holds it's monthly meetings at the St. Louis Park Recreation Center, which is located at 5005 West 36th Street in St. Louis Park. 3/4 mile east of highway 100 on west 36th, behind Byerly's.

Twin Cities Atari Interest Group
PO Box 26128
Minneapolis, Mn. 55426



LOOK
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SWAP MEET!
NEXT MEETING

Next TAIG Meeting :

October 30th
7:00 PM

Come and support TAIG!

First Class